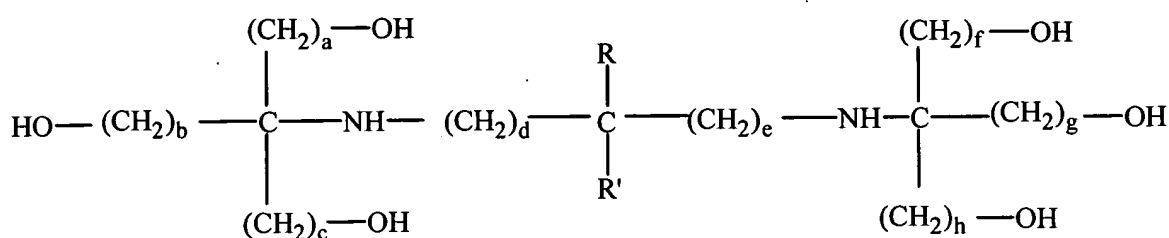


IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete Claims 9 and 19 – 20.

Please amend Claims 1 and 18 as follows:

1. (amended) An aqueous solution for disinfecting a contact lens comprising a microbicide and a compound having the formula



wherein

a, b, c, d, e, f, g, and h are independently integers from 1 to 6; and

R and R' are independently chosen from the group consisting of $-\text{H}$, $-\text{CH}_3$,

$-(\text{CH}_2)_{2-6}-\text{H}$, and $-(\text{CH}_2)_{1-6}-\text{OH}$;

wherein said aqueous solution is substantially free of polyol compounds.

- A2
18. (amended) An aqueous solution for disinfecting a contact lens comprising from 0.1 to 10 ppm of a microbicide selected from the group consisting of polyhexamethylene biguanide and alexidine; and 0.001 to 0.2 mol/L of 1,3-bis(tris[hydroxymethyl]methylamino)propane or a salt thereof, said solution adjusted to pH 6.8 to 7.5; wherein said aqueous solution is substantially free of polyol compounds.